

Application No. 09/283,596
Filed: April 10, 1999

1. (CHANGES) An apparatus for treating at least partially fixed biological tissue to inhibit calcification of the tissue following implantation in a mammalian body, comprising:

a flow container;

a reservoir containing treatment fluid suitable for fixing the tissue [a supply of treatment fluid];

a fluid input to the container;

a fluid output from the container;

a tissue mount for positioning the at least partially fixed biological tissue within the container between the input and output and restrain its gross movement therein; and

means for heating the fluid to a temperature greater than body temperature ($>37^{\circ}\text{C}$)

comprising a heater for heating fluid in the reservoir

Please cancel claim 7. ✓

In claim 8, line 1, replace "claim 7" with --claim 1-- ✓

10. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for treating at least partially fixed biological tissue to inhibit calcification of the tissue following implantation in a mammalian body, comprising:

a piece of at least partially fixed biological tissue;

a container suitable for containing tissue treatment fluid and immersing the piece of at

least partially fixed biological tissue in the fluid,

a shaker for causing treatment fluid movement within the container,

means for heating the treatment fluid and tissue within the container; and

means for restraining the immersed tissue from gross movement within the container.

9. (CHANGES) An apparatus for treating at least partially fixed biological tissue to inhibit calcification of the tissue following implantation in a mammalian body, comprising:
a piece of at least partially fixed biological tissue;

Application No.: 09/283,596
Filed: April 10, 1999

a container suitable for containing tissue treatment fluid and immersing the piece of at least partially fixed biological tissue in the fluid;

a shaker for causing treatment fluid movement within the container; [and]

means for heating the treatment fluid and tissue within the container; and

means for restraining the immersed tissue from gross movement within the container.

13. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for treating at least partially fixed biological tissue to inhibit calcification of the tissue following implantation in a mammalian body, comprising:

a piece of at least partially fixed biological tissue;

a container suitable for containing tissue treatment fluid and immersing the piece of at least partially fixed biological tissue in the fluid;

means for causing treatment fluid movement within the container comprising a stirrer immersed in the treatment fluid,

means for heating the treatment fluid; and

means for restraining the immersed tissue from gross movement within the container.

12. 13. (CHANGES) An apparatus for treating at least partially fixed biological tissue to inhibit calcification of the tissue following implantation in a mammalian body, comprising:

a piece of at least partially fixed biological tissue,

a container suitable for containing tissue treatment fluid and immersing the piece of at least partially fixed biological tissue in the fluid,

means for causing treatment fluid movement within the container comprising a stirrer immersed in the treatment fluid, [and]

means for heating the treatment fluid; and

means for restraining the immersed tissue from gross movement within the container.

Application No.: 09/283,596
Filed: April 10, 1999

Please cancel claim 17.✓

In claim 18, line 1, replace "claim 17" with --claim 13--✓

5 25. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for treating an at least partially fixed sheet of biological tissue to inhibit calcification of the tissue following implantation in a mammalian body, comprising:

treatment fluid suitable for fixing the tissue;

10 a container suitable for containing the tissue treatment fluid having a fluid input and a fluid output;

a system for continuously flowing the treatment fluid through the flow container between the input and output,

15 a tissue mount for positioning the at least partially fixed sheet of biological tissue within the container between the input and output and restrain its gross movement therein, the tissue mount being adapted to mount the tissue sheet in a planar configuration substantially parallel to the direction of flow of the treatment fluid, the sheet of biological tissue being immersed in the continuous flow of treatment fluid; and

means for heating the treatment fluid

20

23-25. (CHANGES) An apparatus for treating an at least partially fixed sheet of biological tissue to inhibit calcification of the tissue following implantation in a mammalian body, comprising:

treatment fluid suitable for fixing the tissue,

25 a container suitable for containing the tissue treatment fluid having a fluid input and a fluid output;

34 a system for continuously flowing the treatment fluid through the flow container between the input and output;